

S E C R E T

Record

OCA 86-4032
3 June 1986

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SSCI*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: SSCI Travel to East Asia

1. Marvin Ott of the SSCI staff mentioned on 3 June 1986 that he will be travelling to South Korea in late June-early July to examine the current problems confronting the Seoul Government. His travel plans are not yet firm, but will be available to OCA once definite plans are made.

2. The purpose of the trip is to develop first-hand information on the situation in South Korea: implications of political opposition activity, stability of the Chun Doo Hwan Government, and the like. The results of the trip are likely to be described in an internal committee report; however, it is possible that Senator Durenberger will recommend publication of an unclassified "Staff Report" like the one done concerning the Philippines in November 1985.

3. Ott also mentioned that Durenberger wanted SSCI staffers to visit Vietnam and Cambodia. State Department opposed the idea -- arguing that it would send the wrong signal to ASEAN. To counter this opposition, staff members discussed the trip with the Thai Ambassador who stated that his government would have no problems with it. In the end, Vietnam refused the request.

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